

# **Minutes of the meeting of the senior student council 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 at 13:30 in ER1**

## **Those present:**

James Dewing (13R1) (Chair), Peter Richards (12F1) (Secretary), Mr C. D. Penford (SMT), Mr H. R. Davies, Ben Jones (10B), Dan Henderson (10D), Connor Hennequin (10F), Oli Penwell (10G), Nick Bonstow (10H), Miles Jaggard (10R), Iain Tinkler (11B), Max Biddlestone (11D), Jasper James (11F), Laurens Stegink (11G), Joshua Owen (11H), George Payne (11R), Rob Green (12D1), Sam Sayer (13D2), M. Mowat (13F2/3), David Southcombe (13G3), John Ware (12H3), Dan Phillips (13H2), Lewis Darby (12R2), Cicely Wills (12R2)

## **Matters Arising:**

### **Scarf:**

- Many designs have been submitted
- Most have too many colours, simple designs will work better
- A design has been chosen, a prototype will be made and reviewed

### **Bike sheds:**

- Funding has been made available for two bike sheds, holding a maximum of twenty bikes between them
- They will be located next to the stable block, opposite the sixth from centre. This location will be suitable because there is already a CCTV camera there
- The student council approved of these plans
- The shed may be limited to people who use helmets and bike locks

### **Website:**

- Mr Smith attended the meeting to discuss the school website
- It has been redesigned by a company that strives for minimum environmental impact
- The site will always be kept up to date. Mrs Madge currently updates the website every day, putting the daily bulletin etc. online
- The student council are to have a section of the website. Volunteers were sought to be responsible for this section, and put information online. The nature of the website allows it to be updated from any internet connection. Volunteers are to see Mr Smith

### **Ideas for content:**

- Minutes or brief summary of meetings

- Space for public comments and suggestions to the council, perhaps a forum and the opportunity to vote online
- A termly report could be published, giving information on council activity

### **AOB:**

#### **Powercard reader:**

- The powercard reader has been removed from reception. It was useful and the students want it back

#### **Latest joint meeting:**

- Due to the greater number of people, there was not enough time for each issue to be fully discussed
- The council voted on whether the format should be repeated. Some voted that it should only be called when needed
- It was suggested that we should decide according to the importance of the matter. All matters should be raised in junior and senior meetings, and if the outcome differs between the two, a joint meeting could be held

#### **Toilets:**

- Some forms wanted there to be sensors under taps, so that they turn on when movement is sensed below them
- It was decided that these would be too expensive, and are unneeded
- However, this raised the issue of school toilets
- The school toilets are in poor condition, and the council would like to see them renovated
- They must be prioritised: The toilets by the ramp first, then opposite the staffroom, and thirdly opposite the bistro. These are the older school toilets, which are overdue a renovation
- Cicely Wills said that the girls' toilets are in good condition
- After further discussion, it was decided that TBGS toilets are significantly better than other schools', but could still be much better

#### **Bagels:**

- Students requested bagels in café 6 and The Bistro
- Students should speak to Mr Blampied about such issues

#### **Plasma screens:**

- The council wanted to see the screens in IT and Business put to better use
- They could show the news reel, shown on the screen in reception

- Alternatively the Business screens could show photos from their trips

#### Music channel in Bistro:

- Some students would like to see a music channel put on in the Bistro
- However, noise levels are already high in the Bistro. Background music would only add to this
- A vote was taken. The majority wanted to keep Sky News, and Sky Sports News

#### HRD to resign from student council:

- Since taking on Mrs Godfrey's work due to her maternity leave, Mr Davies will resign from the student council
- CDP publicly thanked him for his hard work for the council

#### Agenda and student council notice board:

- The representatives need to get items for the agenda from their forms, in order to have a better discussion
- It was suggested that a sheet for submitting agenda items could be put on the student council notice board
- The board is currently used to show the results of a transport survey
- It was noted that the board is generally only glanced at, so small writing is useless
- It was decided that school council issues could be put on the board in enormous letters, to provoke discussion

#### Paths next to maths department:

- These paths are always muddy. Plants have been planted to solve the problem

#### Bistro:

- When raining, the sandwich room is always too full
- The bistro is to be extended by the summer
- There is always room for students after 13:00 in the bistro, but rules about packed lunches are currently unclear
- Again, the issue has been raised that the staff are packing up around students, students feeling obliged to move. This should not happen

#### STEM club:

- Dr Maudling is currently in charge of STEM club
- Student council would like to see STEM club taking in active role in maintaining the Millennium Garden

### **Library:**

- Occasionally, the library and stable block are both closed at the same time, leaving sixth formers no place to work quietly
- Mr Kosmaczewski is looking at the possibility of buying laptops, to be lent to sixth formers for school work
- The manor will include an area where sixth formers can quietly study
- The librarians often disallow students to ask teachers using the library if they can work quietly to one side, even when there's plenty of space

### **End of school day:**

- Some teachers don't let students out until well after the bell
- Teachers must understand that school finishes at 15:50

### **Form room:**

- Once again the council have had complaints that language block form rooms are being locked by John Taylor, the language block warden, for cleaning during lunchtime
- This encourages students to use other forms' rooms
- 10F are often locked out of their room because it is invaded by groups of students. They are powerless to stop them, but have to face the consequences
- Previously year group form rooms have worked
- The number of prefects could be increased, but this is not always reliable and students don't always obey prefects
- Form rooms are only used in rain, so it is an annual, seasonal problem
- The council could find no economically viable solutions, but would like this type of occurrence to stop